

Phrases that Support the Parent-Child Relationship

AWARENESS	ANALYSIS	ALTERNATIVE	ACTION
<p>What do you know about ... ?</p> <p>What is your understanding about why ..?</p> <p>What do I need to know to help things go well with your child today?</p> <p>What's that like for you?</p> <p>What do you think that's like for your child?</p> <p>What do you think he is trying to tell you?</p> <p>How are you currently ... ?</p> <p>What kinds of things did you try?</p> <p>What did you do that worked well?</p> <p>When did you first notice this?</p> <p>Where does that happen most often?</p> <p>When does this happen most often?</p> <p>What else do you think she might be trying to tell you when she does that?</p> <p>What happened when ... ?</p> <p>What went well?</p> <p>Why do you think she acts that way?</p> <p>I wonder why ... ?</p> <p>How do you feel when ... ?</p> <p>How do you cope when you are feeling stressed?</p> <p>What has been most helpful?</p> <p>How effective do you think ... ?</p>	<p>What do you know now after trying ... ?</p> <p>How does that compare with what you originally thought?</p> <p>How does this compare to how it usually goes?</p> <p>How would you like that to go compared to what just happened?</p> <p>Thinking about how things were just a few weeks ago, what is the same and what is different at home?</p> <p>How did you know you needed to ... ?</p> <p>How was that the same/different from what you expected?</p> <p>What brought about that result?</p> <p>How do you feel about that?</p> <p>What do you think about ... ?</p>	<p>What are other ways you could view this for next time?</p> <p>What different things could you do to learn more about ... ?</p> <p>How might you go about doing that?</p> <p>What are different ways you could approach this?</p> <p>What are ways you'd consider to help with this?</p> <p>What else might happen when you ...?</p> <p>What might make it work even better next time?</p> <p>What else could you try?</p> <p>What options do you have for ... ?</p>	<p>How do you plan on learning more about ...?</p> <p>How are you going to put that into place?</p> <p>What do you plan to do?</p> <p>When will you do this?</p> <p>Which approach do you think will be the most useful?</p> <p>What do you plan to do differently next time?</p>

Feedback comments:

- You really know him/her well
- I am so glad that you told me that
- That makes so much sense
- She/he gets so excited when she sees you!
- You sound really frustrated (sad, angry, tired, etc.)
- This has been a hard year.
- Even though you try and try nothing seems to work consistently.
- It is difficult to understand why your first and second child are so different

Comments that build connection/collaboration (holding the parent in mind)

- I have been thinking about you ... (could be a part of joint planning at the beginning of a visit)
- I've been wondering how things worked out with ...

Questions Adapted from: The Early Childhood Coaching Handbook by Dathan D. Rush, Ed.D., CCC-SLP, and M'Lisa L. Sheldon, PT, Ph.D. Copyright © 2011 by Paul H. Brookes Publishing Co, Inc. and Jane Ellison and Michele Fallon 2/2011